

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 16-25, and amend claims 1, 9 and 14 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An interlocking stand for storing and charging a rechargeable appliance and configured for interlocking with another adjacent charging and storing stand having a base with at least one depending tab on a detent located along opposing side edges, the stand comprising:

means for supporting the appliance for storage;

at least one electrical contact inside said supporting means for connection to the appliance;

means for providing power to said at least one electrical contact; and

means for interlocking said stand with another stand along opposing side edges;

wherein said means for interlockinterlocking is disposed on two sides of the stand, and said means for interlockinterlocking is the same on both said sides;

said means for supporting includes a base having at least one side edge having a lateral detent configured for engaging a complementary lateral detent of the other stand; and

said means for interlocking includes at least one hole disposed in said detent constructed and arranged for receiving a corresponding tab of the adjacent stand.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) The interlocking stand of claim 1 wherein said supporting means includes a base and a cradle secured to said base.

5. (Original) The interlocking stand of claim 4 wherein said base and said cradle form a docking recess for the appliance.

6. (Original) The interlocking stand of claim 1 wherein the appliance is one of a hair trimmer and a hair clipper.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A set of interlocking stands for storing and charging rechargeable appliances, the set comprising:

at least two stands configured to receive the rechargeable appliances;

means associated with said stands for supporting the appliances for storage;

at least one electrical contact inside said supporting means for connection to the appliances;

means for providing power to said at least one electrical contact; and
means for interlocking one of said stands with another stand;
said at least two stands including a first stand type with a first means for
interlocking and a second stand type with a second means for interlocking different from
but engageable with said first means for interlocking;
said means for interlocking is disposed on two sides of each said stand; and
said means for interlocking is the same on both said sides of said first and second stand
types
~~wherein each of the stands is configured to be powered directly.~~

10. (Previously presented) The set of interlocking stands of claim 9
wherein a first stand of said plurality of stands includes a base, and said interlocking
means comprises at least one tab disposed on said base and configured to engage another
of said stands.

11. (Original) The set of interlocking stands of claim 10 wherein a
second stand of said plurality of stands includes a base, and said interlocking means
comprises at least one hole disposed on said base and configured for receiving said at
least one tab of said first stand.

12. (Original) The set of interlocking stands of claim 11 wherein said bases are configured so that upon said interlocking engagement, upper surfaces of said first and second stands are generally flush with each other.

13. (Original) The set of interlocking stands of claim 9 wherein said supporting means includes a base and a cradle secured to said base.

14. (Currently Amended) An interlocking stand for charging and storing an appliance, and configured for interlocking with another adjacent charging and storing stand having a base with two side edges having a lateral detent in each edge and at least hole in each said detent, said the stand comprising:

means for supporting the appliance for storage, said supporting means including a base having at least one side edge having a lateral detent configured for engaging the complementary lateral detent of the other stand; and

means for interlocking the stand with another the other stand, said means for interlocking including at least one tab disposed on said base for depending from said edge and configured to engage a corresponding one of the holes in the detent on the other interlocking stand;

wherein said means for interlocking is disposed on two sides of the said stand, and said means for interlocking is the same on both said sides.

15. (Original) The interlocking stand of claim 14 wherein said means for interlocking is configured so that when said stand is interlocked with the other stand, upper surfaces of said stand and the other stand are generally flush.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)